

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO NIACT IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:UN, IDB, EGEN

SUBJECT: US VENEZUELAN COOPERATION AT UNGA SPECIAL SESSION

REF: SEC. SCHULTZ ON BOARD 86978 292320Z MAR 74

FOR SECRETARY SCHULTZ FROM UNDER SECRETARY DONALDSON

FYI. THIS SPECIAL SESSION CAN BE ROUGH FOR US. A NUMBER OF LDC'S LOOK AT THIS MEETING AS AN UNEQUALED OPPORTUNITY TO ATTACK THE US ON A NUMBER OF FRONTS AND TO BLAME US PARTICULARLY FOR INCREASED OIL PRICES--SAYING WE FORCED UP WHEAT AND SOYBEAN PRICES FIRST. THESE SAME COUNTRIES WILL TRY TO EXTRACT POLICY CONCESSIONS FROM US IN THE AREAS OF TRADE, AID AND MONETARY REFORM, WILL CRITICIZE THE ROLE OF MULTINATIONAL (READ US) CORPORATIONS, TAKE A HARD LINE ON THEIR RIGHTS OVER THEIR OWN NATURAL RESOURCES AND YET, AT SAME TIME, COMPLAIN ABOUT OUR FAILURE TO TRANSFER TECHNOLOGY TO THEM FAST ENOUGH AND CHEAP ENOUGH. WE EXPECT THE LDC'S TO PUSH FOR THE ADOPTION OF A "STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES" AND A "PLAN OF ACTION," WHICH THEY NOW

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DESCRIBE AS A "NEW ECONOMIC ORDER." MUCH OF THIS WILL

BE HARD FOR US TO TAKE SO OURS WILL BE A DAMAGE-LIMITING APPROACH. WE INTEND TO REMAIN LOOSE AND PLAN TO COPE

WITH AD HOC SITUATIONS AS THEY ARISE DURING COURSE OF THIS FOUR TO FIVE WEEK MEETING. OUR PUBLIC STANCE HOWEVER IS AS FOLLOWS: END FYI)

1. WHILE WE FRANKLY HAD DOUBTS THAT SPECIAL GA CONVENED ON SUCH SHORT NOTICE COULD ACCOMPLISH GREAT DEAL IN CONTRIBUTING TO SOLUTION OF COMPLEX ISSUES INVOLVED IN WHOLE ARENA OF RAW MATERIALS, ENERGY AND DEVELOPMENT, WE ARE NOW APPROACHING SESSION IN POSITIVE AND CONSTRUCTIVE SPIRIT.

2. IN EXTENSIVE CONSULTATIONS IN NEW YORK AND WASHINGTON, WE HAVE BEEN EMPHASIZING OUR DESIRE TO SEE GA AVOID CONFRONTATIONS. THIS REGARD, WE ARE STRESSING THE IMPORTANCE FOR THE DECISIONS ON THE SENSITIVE ISSUES INVOLVED TO REST ON CONSENSUS. OBVIOUSLY, IF MAJOR COUNTRIES WHOSE COOPERATION IN CARRYING OUT THE RESOLUTIONS IS REQUIRED DO NOT SUPPORT THEM; THEY WILL HAVE LITTLE MEANING.

3. WE INTEND TO USE THE OCCASION OF THE SPECIAL SESSION TO JOIN CONSTRUCTIVELY IN RAISING THE LEVEL DISCOURSE ON THESE LONG-STANDING AND THORNY ECONOMIC ISSUES TO SENIOR POLITICAL LEVEL AND WILL EMPHASIZE THE GROWING INTERDEPENDENCE OF ALL NATIONS AS THE WORLD FACES GROWING SHORTAGES AND INFLATED PRICES IN CRITICAL COMMODITIES.

4. BASICALLY OUR OBJECTIVE IS TO AVOID CREATION OF ANY NEW MACHINERY AND TO ASSURE THAT THE ASSEMBLY DEBATE DOES NOT INTERFERE WITH ON-GOING WORK IN INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS OR THE WASHINGTON ENERGY GROUP.

5. OBVIOUSLY A TREMENDOUSLY IMPORTANT CONCRETE AREA WHERE QUESTION OF COOPERATIVE SPIRIT ARISES IS OUR ATTITUDE TOWARD PEREZ PROPOSALS RE CHANGING STRUCTURE OF INTER-AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK. THIS WILL BE SUBJECT OF A LATER MESSAGE.

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6. IN ANY EVENT, VENEZUELAN FINANCE MINISTER SHOULD BE ASSURED THAT US LOOKS FORWARD TO MAINTAINING CLOSE CONTACTS WITH HIM THROUGHOUT THE SPECIAL SESSION.
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